

Old Powhatan Baptist Church  
2202 Old Church Road  
Powhatan, VA 23139

# the FOCUS

OLD POWHATAN BAPTIST CHURCH



VBS  
2014

MA  
MISSION APPALACHIA



# Union With Christ: Sharing His Sufferings

“that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,” Philippians 3:10

Constructed of corrugated tin, the walls and roof of the small structure shone brightly beneath the sun’s powerful rays. Inside it was hot and humid; only the coolness of the concrete floor offered a bit of relief from the heat. Huddled closely together on the floor, sat Anamika’s six students eagerly waiting for their reading lessons to begin. But this day would be different; today they also had visitors who had come to hear how this young girl, a former Muslim, had come to Christ.

In a calm, quiet voice Anamika began:

“When I was in Class 4, I saw a film about Jesus on the television. At that time I was learning about the Quran from a Muslim teacher. I asked her why Jesus was crucified, and if He really could forgive sins. ‘If you ask me these things again, I will punish you,’ she told me. I then asked an imam. He told me that the Bible had been corrupted and that the Quran was the right one and should be followed. ‘If you follow the Bible, you will not go to heaven, and you will not be a Muslim,’ he warned me. After that, I tried to be faithful with my Muslim prayers and believed everything the imam said.

“When I was in Class 6 I saw on television the same film about Jesus. This time, I wanted to know more. I had the opportunity a year later when I stayed at my uncle’s house in Dhaka. There I saw a Bible and read it from beginning to end. But I didn’t understand it, so I looked for ways to know the Bible more. I met a lady from another city and she took me to prayer meetings where I met another believer. He told me about a women’s gathering. ‘You can ask them anything,’ he said. I had many questions for the women, but the most important was ‘how can Jesus forgive me?’ One lady gave me a verse from the Bible. She said that those who were weary and tired could come to Jesus Christ, and He would give them rest.

“In 2004 I decided to be baptized; two years later, when I was in Class 10, I got married to Rashid, an evangelist. I also studied theology for six months. By this point I knew more about Jesus and wondered how I could talk about Him to other people.” This question was soon answered when God placed a burden on her heart for women and children living in a Dhaka slum. In spite of her limited resources, Anamika opened up a small school where she taught literacy classes using Bible stories.

For the past eight years, 23-year-old Anamika has faithfully served God, but she admits that her life has not been easy. “My parents told me that I have betrayed my nation when I became a Christian. I also have had my share of filthy words [said to me] for being a follower of Christ and have been pressured to go back to Islam many times. During those times, I felt frustrated. I would cry. But then I would pray and read the Bible. These helped me keep my faith.”

Today Anamika asks for your prayers. “Please pray for the Christians workers in Bangladesh who are reaching out to Muslims. My husband and I have shared the gospel to people in my village but now we want to move to another place; please pray as we make plans.”



Anamika’s Story

<http://www.onewiththem.com/stories-of-persecution/anamika/>

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# ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL **growth groups**

Have you been looking for a way to get more connected at OPBC?

Have you realized the importance of studying the Bible with other believers?

Has it been a while since you've been in a Sunday School Class?

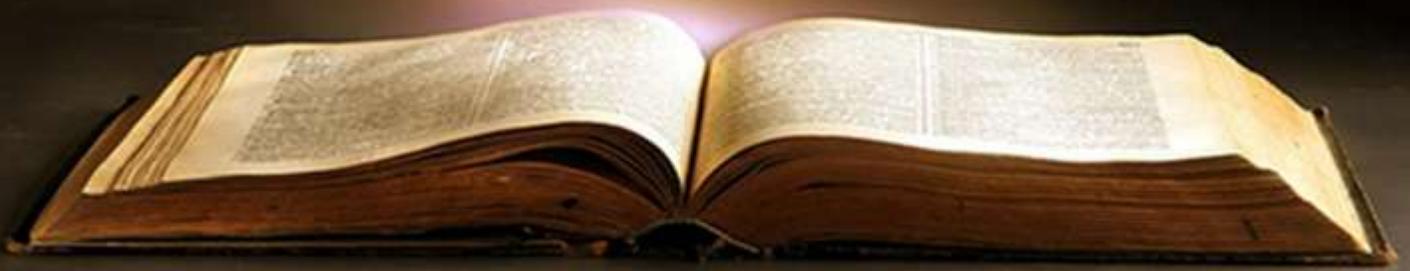
Have you thought about joining a Growth Group, but just haven't gotten around to it?

## join us this summer...

Starting June 1 in Combined Adult Sunday School and in Growth Groups  
Join Us As We Study Together

Sundays at 9:45AM Adults Gather for Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall  
Sign Up with Pastor Roger for In-Home Growth Groups  
During the Week and Discuss the Application for Our Daily Lives

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO  
**Deuteronomy**



# Ladies Day Apart

save the date  
July 12th



## MISSION APPALACHIA



MATTHEW 5:16

### JULY 30 - AUG 03

SERVE WHERE YOU ARE. BE A MISSIONARY.

Appalachia is a massive body of land and culture. Since the early 19th century missionary teams have served the people of the Appalachian area. Our church will be going to West Virginia completing many different tasks, such as in home visits, carpentry and more. Our largest need right now are more volunteers.

Sign-ups are located in the welcome center. For more information on the trip please see Georgie and/or attend the meeting on May 18th.



**OPBC  
YOUTH**



RE:GENERATION Student Ministries will be headed to Philadelphia to help with church planting and

ministry June 20th-27th. **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TEAM AS THEY GO!!!**

# GRADUATION Sunday

## JUNE 8th

high school  
and college  
graduates

Contact the church office if you or a family member will be graduating from High School, College, or an Advanced degree program. We would love to honor your accomplishments!

SUNDAY, JUNE 29TH  
12:30PM-2:30PM

Hamburgers and Hotdogs will be provided. Please bring a guest and a side dish/ dessert.

Sign up sheets will be in the Welcome Center starting June 1. Come out and fellowship with us and enjoy some great food!



JUNE  
16th -

LIFEWAY'S  
**Agency D3**  
DISCOVER DECIDE DEFEND | PETER 3:15

JUNE  
20th

VBS MOTTO  
Discover. Decide. Defend.

VBS SCRIPTURE  
1 Peter 3:15

But honor the Messiah as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.

AGENCY D3

Trace it back to just the facts! The evidence is clear. The proof is all right here! Come discover, decide, and defend the truth about who Jesus really is at Agency D3.

THE LAB

EVIDENCE VAULT

MAP ROOM



HEADQUARTERS



COMMUNICATION

TRAINING GROUND

BREAK ROOM

VBS  
KICKOFF

Come for an evening of fun, food and prayer walking. All teachers and assistants are strongly encouraged to attend.

JUNE 11TH  
6:30PM





KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
BE A VBS  
VOLUNTEER

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN ALL  
AREAS... SIGN UP IN THE  
BREEZEWAY AT CHURCH OR  
CONTACT JENNIFER BRAY TO  
HELP OUT AND SERVE OUR KIDS.

# VOLUNTEER WORKSHOPS

VBS Agency  
2014 **D3**

Sunday, May 4 — 12:15 (Workshop/Child Safety Training)  
If you have not completed Child Safety Training,  
please contact the church office.

Sunday, May 18 — 12:15pm — 2:15pm  
Sunday, June 1 — 12:15pm — 3:15pm  
Sunday, June 8 — 12:15pm — 3:15pm  
Saturday, June 14 — 10:00am — 2:00pm  
Sunday, June 15 — 12:15pm Final Set-up

**LUNCH  
ON US**



**YOUR MISSION  
AWAITS!**

**SIGN UP FOR VBS TODAY!**

**JUNE 16-20 8:30AM-NOON**

LIFEWAYS  
**Agency D3**  
DISCOVER DECIDE DEFEND | PETER 315



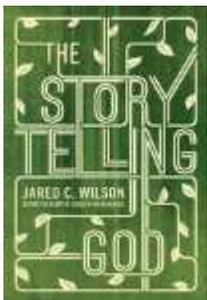
So, it is no secret that I love to read. I can thank my mom and dad for instilling that love in me. I am constantly reading theology books, pastoral ministry books and biographies. This summer, I wanted to offer everyone the chance to read along with me as I read three books that will be helpful, encouraging, and challenging.



## Will you join me? Pick one or all of the books and read along this summer.



Trillia Newbell, United: **Captured by God's Vision for Diversity**. Moody Publishers, 2014. *On the Last Day every tongue and tribe will be represented in the glorious chorus praising God with one voice. Yet today our churches remain segregated. Can we reflect the beauty of the last day this day? United will inspire, challenge and encourage readers to pursue the joys of diversity through stories of the author's own journey and a theology of diversity lived out. Civil rights leaders of fifty years ago fought hard to overturn the "separate but equal" Jim Crow laws. America has come a long way since the 60's. Our public facilities, parks, pools, and educational facilities - once segregated - are now filled with a variety of ethnic groups enjoying the benefits of togetherness. Yet, our churches remain separate but equal. In a time of great progress, why does the church remain relatively unmoved? United will explore the importance of pursuing diversity in the church by sharing the author's unique experiences growing up in the south and attending a predominately white church. She champions the theology of diversity throughout the book through the Scriptures providing compelling reasons to pursue diversity. Trillia will also weave in story describing her friendship with two women of different ethnicities.*

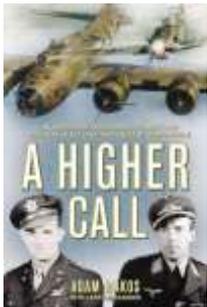


Jared Wilson. **The StoryTelling God: Seeing the Glory of Jesus in His Parables**. Crossway, 2014.

*Throw away your flannelgraphs... The prodigal son. The good Samaritan. The treasure hidden in a field. Most of us have heard Jesus's parables before. Yet if these stories strike us as merely sweet, heartwarming, or sentimental, we can be sure we've misread them. In The Storytelling God, pastor Jared Wilson helps us to see how Jesus's parables reveal profound spiritual truths about God, humanity, the world, and the future.*

*Discarding the notion that Christ's parables are nothing more than moralistic fables, this book highlights how each one is designed to drive us to Jesus in awe, need, faith, and worship.*

Adam Makos, Larry Alexander. **A Higher Call: An Incredible True Story of Combat and Chivalry in the Worn-torn Skies of World War II**. Berkley, 2012.



*Four days before Christmas 1943, a badly damaged American bomber struggled to fly over wartime Germany. At its controls was a 21-year-old pilot. Half his crew lay wounded or dead. It was their first mission. Suddenly, a sleek, dark shape pulled up on the bomber's tail—a German Messerschmitt fighter. Worse, the German pilot was an ace, a man able to destroy the American bomber in the squeeze of a trigger. What happened next would defy imagination and later be called the most incredible encounter between enemies in World War II. This is the true story of the two pilots whose lives collided in the skies that day—the American—2nd Lieutenant Charlie Brown, a former farm boy from West Virginia who came to captain a B-17—and the German—*

*2nd Lieutenant Franz Stigler, a former airline pilot from Bavaria who sought to avoid fighting in World War II. A Higher Call follows both Charlie and Franz's harrowing missions. Charlie would face takeoffs in English fog over the flaming wreckage of his buddies' planes, flak bursts so close they would light his cockpit, and packs of enemy fighters that would circle his plane like sharks. Franz would face sandstorms in the desert, a crash alone at sea, and the spectacle of 1,000 bombers each with eleven guns, waiting for his attack. Ultimately, Charlie and Franz would stare across the frozen skies at one another. What happened between them, the American 8th Air Force would later classify as "top secret." It was an act that Franz could never mention or else face a firing squad. It was the encounter that would haunt both Charlie and Franz for forty years until, as old men, they would search for one another, a last mission that could change their lives forever.*

